



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber  
Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2008  
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/KYW

CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN  
PHONE: (502) 582-5911  
FAX: (502) 582-5097

**CALLOWAY COUNTY MAN SENTENCED FOR DRUG-TRAFFICKING  
AND FIREARMS CHARGES**

*- Prior conviction for trafficking in methamphetamine*

PADUCAH, KY - Anthony Neil Lax, age 34, of 152 Seth Lane, Murray, Kentucky, in Calloway County, was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in United States District Court, Paducah, Kentucky, for the possession of five grams or more of methamphetamine and the possession of ammunition while a convicted felon, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today. Hon. Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced Lax to 4 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Lax had plead guilty to the drug-trafficking and firearms charges by admitting that about April 1, 2007 in Calloway County, Kentucky, he possessed more than five grams of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it. The methamphetamine was contained in several baggies under the seat of his motor vehicle. Lax had run a stop sign and was stopped by a Calloway County deputy. During the traffic stop, and utilization of a trained dog maintained by the Calloway County Sheriff's Office, the illegal drugs were discovered. The street value of the methamphetamine is approximately \$2,400. In addition, Lax admitted that he possessed approximately 500 rounds of ammunition that were also found during the search of the motor

vehicle. As a result of prior felony convictions for manufacturing methamphetamine and possession of anhydrous ammonia with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine in Calloway Circuit Court in October 2001, Lax was prohibited from possessing firearms and ammunition.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Sparks, and it was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) and the Calloway County Sheriff's Department, as part of the ATF mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This was a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

###